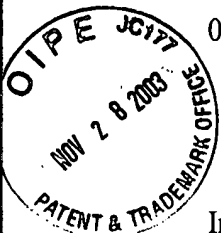


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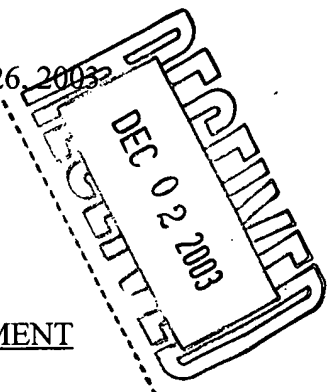
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
MASATO OCHIAI) Examiner: D. E. England
Application No.: 09/507,941) Group Art Unit: 2143
Filed: February 22, 2000)
For: NETWORK DEVICE CONTROL)
APPARATUS, NETWORK)
DEVICE CONTROL METHOD,)
NETWORK DEVICE CONTROL)
PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-)
READABLE RECORDING)
MEDIUM STORING NETWORK)
CONTROL PROGRAM THEREIN :

RECEIVED
DEC 01 2003
Technology Center 2100

November 26, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The cited references were called to Applicant's attention in a Japanese Office Action dated September 2, 2003, for a Japanese application which is a counterpart to the instant application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is also enclosed.

For the concise explanation of the relevance of non-English document JP-A-09-200247, the Examiner is referred to the English translation attached to that

document; and for JP-A-08-181704 the Examiner is referred to the English abstract attached to that document.

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

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